

Los Angeles Co., Calif. Coroner.
Report [annual] 1938/39

REPORT OF
FRANK A. NANCE, CORONER
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
JULY 1, 1938 - JUNE 30, 1939

C

R347.73016
1938/39

L.A. 15
1938/39

August 31, 1939

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
501 Hall of Records
Los Angeles, California

Gentlemen:

In presenting herewith a report of the operations of the Coroner's Office for the fiscal year 1938-39, I wish to direct your attention to the fact that during this period we handled a case load of 6190, the largest in our history and second in volume only to that of the Coroner of Cook County, Illinois.

This number is 22 percent of all the deaths that occurred in Los Angeles County and it was an increase of 7 percent over the preceding year. No additional assistants were employed in the discharge of this added responsibility. I also desire to advise that while the average cost of this work in Coroners' offices throughout the United States is about \$25.00 per case, our net cost was only \$14.50 per case, which shows an economy of approximately \$65,000.00 in the operation of this office.

Since we experienced no large disasters or epidemics of disease during this period, it is evident that our increase in load was wholly due to increase in the population of the county, which will doubtless continue to add to the responsibilities of the Coroner each succeeding year.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank A. Daniel
CORONER, Los Angeles County

FAN/G

REPORT OF FRANK A. NANCE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY CORONER
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1938-39

-1-

JULY	1938	470
AUGUST	"	452
SEPTEMBER	"	492
OCTOBER	"	501
NOVEMBER	"	554
DECEMBER	"	595
JANUARY	1939	604
FEBRUARY	"	525
MARCH	"	531
APRIL	"	498
MAY	"	465
JUNE	"	<u>503</u>
TOTAL		<u>6190</u>
<hr style="width: 50%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
MALE		4205
FEMALE		<u>1985</u>
TOTAL		<u>6190</u>
<hr style="width: 50%; margin-left: 0;"/>		
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		3852
IN COUNTY OF " O/S L. A. CITY		<u>2338</u>
TOTAL		<u>6190</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

-2-

HANDLED BY CORONER

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS:		
AIRPLANE	13	
ASPHYXIATION	13	
BURNS	91	
CRUSHING	4	
DROWNING	69	
ELECTROCUTION	2	
ELECTRIC RAILWAY	33	
FALLS	368	
FIREARMS	11	
HEAD INJURY	103	
INDUSTRIAL	110	
INFECTION	35	
MISCELLANEOUS	43	
MOTOR VEHICLE	976	
POISONING (ALCOHOLISM, 42)	107	
STEAM RAILWAY	20	
STRANGULATION	7	
SUFFOCATION	<u>11</u>	
	TOTAL	2016
HOMICIDES	124	
SUICIDES	650	
ABORTIONS	19	
NATURAL CAUSES	3345	
PREMATURE BIRTHS	13	
STILLBORN	15	
UNKNOWN CAUSES	<u>8</u>	
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>6190</u>

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-3-

		<u>MOTOR VEHICLE</u>	<u>ELECTRIC RY</u>	<u>STEAM RY.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
JULY	1938	73	3	0	76
AUGUST	"	83	4	2	89
SEPTEMBER	"	96	1	2	99
OCTOBER	"	93	0	0	93
NOVEMBER	"	81	5	1	87
DECEMBER	"	90	3	2	95
JANUARY	1939	83	2	1	86
FEBRUARY	"	64	3	3	70
MARCH	"	95	3	2	100
APRIL	"	76	3	3	82
MAY	"	57	3	1	61
JUNE	"	85	3	3	91
TOTAL		976	33	20	1029

IN ABOVE CLASSIFICATION "MOTOR VEHICLE" INCLUDES ALL FATALITIES
IN WHICH A MOTOR VEHICLE IS INVOLVED.

"ELECTRIC AND STEAM RAILWAY" INCLUDES ONLY THOSE CASES IN
WHICH A PEDESTRIAN OR PASSENGER IS KILLED.

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-4-

PEDESTRIANS

JULY	1938	34	
AUGUST	"	40	
SEPTEMBER	"	39	
OCTOBER	"	45	
NOVEMBER	"	40	
DECEMBER	"	60	
JANUARY	1939	45	
FEBRUARY	"	39	
MARCH	"	46	
APRIL	"	39	
MAY	"	32	
JUNE	"	<u>37</u>	
TOTAL			<u>496</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		340	
FEMALE		<u>156</u>	
TOTAL			<u>496</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		311	
IN COUNTY OF	" O/S L.A. CITY	178	
O/S	" " " DEATH OCCURRING		
IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY		<u>7</u>	
TOTAL			<u>496</u>

TRAFFIC FATALITIES
PEDESTRIAN

-5-

<u>AGES</u>					
1	to	2	Yrs.	4	
2	to	5	Yrs.	14	
5	to	10	Yrs.	20	
10	to	20	Yrs.	16	
20	to	45	Yrs.	81	
45	to	65	Yrs.	161	
65	and	over		<u>200</u>	
				TOTAL	<u>496</u>

AT INTERSECTION	305	
OTHER THAN INTERSECTION	<u>191</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>496</u>

A.M. (MIDNIGHT TO NOON)	114	
P.M. (NOON TO MIDNIGHT)	382	
	TOTAL	<u>496</u>

<u>NATURE</u>			
AUTO AND PEDESTRIAN	452		
TRUCK AND PEDESTRIAN	35		
MOTORCYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN	3		
BUS AND PEDESTRIAN	4		
TAXI AND PEDESTRIAN	<u>2</u>		
	TOTAL	<u>496</u>	

<u>CAUSES</u>		
CROSSING STREET NOT AT INTERSECTION	107	
CROSSING STREET CARELESSLY	148	
RUNNING IN STREET	23	
WALKING IN STREET	9	
PLAYING IN STREET	2	
BACKING	11	
SKIDDING	2	

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-6-

CAUSES, Continued

PEDESTRIANS

INCOMPETENT HANDLING	48	
INTOXICATION	14	
RECKLESS DRIVING	122	
DRIVERLESS CAR RAN DOWN HILL	1	
FELL FROM AND RUN OVER BY TRUCK	1	
ATTEMPTING TO HITCH RIDE	2	
DEFECTIVE BRAKES	1	
TAXI COLLIDED WITH ELEC.RY. THEN STRUCK PEDESTRIAN	1	
POLICE CAR COLLIDED WITH MOTORCYCLE, " "	1	
STRUCK BY ONE AUTO, RUN OVER BY ANOTHER	1	
CRANKED CAR WHILE IN GEAR	1	
UNDETERMINED WHETHER FALL OR STRUCK BY AUTO	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL		<u>496</u>

HELD RESPONSIBLE BY CORONER'S JURY:

MALE DRIVERS	114
--------------	-----

FEMALE DRIVERS	13
----------------	----

UNKNOWN DRIVERS	54
-----------------	----

EXONERATED BY CORONER'S JURY:

MALE DRIVERS	270
--------------	-----

FEMALE DRIVERS	40
----------------	----

CASES IN WHICH NO INQUEST BEFORE A JURY WAS HELD:

MALE DRIVERS	3
--------------	---

FEMALE DRIVER	1
---------------	---

DRIVERLESS CAR	<u>1</u>
----------------	----------

TOTAL		<u>496</u>
-------	--	------------

HIT AND RUN CASES	68
-------------------	----

H.B.D. CASES (PEDESTRIAN 27; DRIVER 8)	35
--	----

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-7-

COLLISION AND NON-COLLISION

JULY	1938	39	
AUGUST	"	43	
SEPTEMBER	"	57	
OCTOBER	"	48	
NOVEMBER	"	41	
DECEMBER	"	30	
JANUARY	1939	38	
FEBRUARY	"	25	
MARCH	"	49	
APRIL	"	37	
MAY	"	25	
JUNE	"	<u>48</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>480</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		368	
FEMALE		<u>112</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>480</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		181	
IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY O/S LOS ANGELES CITY		279	
O/S LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DEATH IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY		<u>20</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>480</u>

TRAFFIC FATALITIES
COLLISION AND NON-COLLISION

-8-

AGES

Less than 1 Yr.	2	
2 to 5 Yrs.	7	
5 to 10 Yrs.	6	
10 to 20 Yrs.	64	
20 to 45 Yrs.	247	
45 to 65 Yrs.	110	
65 and over	<u>44</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>480</u>

AT INTERSECTION	270	
OTHER THAN INTERSECTION	<u>210</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>480</u>

A.M. (MIDNIGHT TO NOON)	166	
P.M. (NOON TO MIDNIGHT)	<u>314</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>480</u>

NATURE

COLLISION:	
AUTO AND AUTO	155
AUTO AND TRUCK	52
AUTO AND MOTORCYCLE	19
AUTO AND TRAILER	1
AUTO AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY	51
AUTO AND STEAM RAILWAY	20
AUTO AND BUS	9
AUTO AND BICYCLE	21
AUTO AND TREE	12
AUTO AND POLE	11
AUTO AND BRIDGE	3

TRAFFIC FATALITIES
COLLISION AND NON-COLLISION

-9-

NATURE, Continued

AUTO AND CURB	3
AUTO AND DITCH	1
AUTO AND CULVERT	1
AUTO AND WALL	1
AUTO AND HOUSE	3
AUTO AND HORSE AND BUGGY	2
AUTO AND WAGON	1
AUTO AND GUARDRAIL	1
TRUCK AND TRUCK	14
TRUCK AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY	2
TRUCK AND STEAM RAILWAY	4
TRUCK AND MOTORCYCLE	4
TRUCK AND TREE	2
TRUCK AND BICYCLE	3
MOTORCYCLE AND FIREPLUG	1
NON-COLLISION:	
AUTO OVERTURNED	57
TRUCK OVERTURNED	7
AUTO OFF CLIFF	3
AUTO OFF DOCK	1
FALLS FROM VEHICLE	11
MOTORCYCLE OVERTURNED	<u>3</u>

TOTAL

480

TRAFFIC FATALITIES
COLLISION AND NON-COLLISION

-10-

CAUSES

COLLISION:	
INCOMPETENT HANDLING	130
INTOXICATION	11
RIGHT-OF-WAY VIOLATED	111
RECKLESS DRIVING	52
MOTORIST'S NEGLIGENCE AT RAILWAY CROSSING	66
BACKING	1
DRIVER ASLEEP	1
LOST CONTROL	16
TIRE BLOWOUT	1
FAILURE TO SIGNAL	1
NO SIGNAL (RAILWAY CROSSING)	1
BICYCLIST HITCH RIDING	1
PASSENGER BUMPED HEAD DUE TO COLLISION	1
COLLIDED WITH TRUCK, THEN STRUCK STREET CAR	1
SITTING ON MOTORCYCLE AND STRUCK BY TRUCK	1
PASSENGER INTERFERED WITH DRIVER	1
DUE TO FOGGY WEATHER	1
DUE TO DUST STORM	1
NON-COLLISION:	
VEHICLE OVERTURNED: LOST CONTROL	42
AVOIDING COLLISION	1
INTOXICATION	3
RECKLESS DRIVING	11
TIRE BLOWOUT	4
SKIDDING	6
DURING RACING CONTEST	1
AUTO OFF CLIFF, SKIDDING	2

TRAFFIC FATALITIES
COLLISION AND NON-COLLISION

-11-

CAUSES, Continued

NON-COLLISION:		
AUTO OFF DOCK, LOST CONTROL	1	
FALLS FROM VEHICLE:		
IMPROPER RIDING	2	
FALL OR JUMP UNDETERMINED	2	
INTOXICATION	2	
DURING RACING CONTEST	2	
RECKLESS DRIVING	2	
CHILD OPENED DOOR, FELL OUT	<u>1</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>480</u>

FIELD RESPONSIBLE BY CORONER'S JURY		
MALE DRIVERS	195	
FEMALE DRIVERS	14	
UNKNOWN DRIVERS	3	
TRAIN CREWS	8	
EXONERATED BY CORONER'S JURY:		
MALE DRIVERS	98	
FEMALE DRIVERS	6	
TRAIN CREWS	69	
CASES IN WHICH NO INQUEST BEFORE A JURY WAS HELD:		
MALE DRIVERS	82	
FEMALE DRIVERS	<u>5</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>480</u>

HIT AND RUN CASES	4
H.B.D. CASES	12

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-12-

ELECTRIC RAILWAY

JULY	1938	3	
AUGUST	"	4	
SEPTEMBER	"	1	
OCTOBER	"	0	
NOVEMBER	"	5	
DECEMBER	"	3	
JANUARY	1939	2	
FEBRUARY	"	3	
MARCH	"	3	
APRIL	"	3	
MAY	"	3	
JUNE	"	<u>3</u>	
TOTAL			<u>33</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		20	
FEMALE		<u>13</u>	
TOTAL			<u>33</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		24	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S LOS ANGELES CITY		<u>9</u>	
TOTAL			<u>33</u>
<hr/>			
10	to 20 Yrs.	1	
20	to 45 Yrs.	2	
45	to 65 Yrs.	15	
65	and over	<u>15</u>	
TOTAL			<u>33</u>

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-13-

ELECTRIC RAILWAY

NATURE

ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND PEDESTRIAN	30	
ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND PASSENGER	2	
ELECTRIC RAILWAY AND BICYCLIST	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL		<u>33</u>

CAUSES

WALKING ON RIGHT-OF-WAY	3	
CROSSING RIGHT-OF-WAY CARELESSLY	17	
INCOMPETENT HANDLING BY MOTORMAN	8	
INTOXICATION BY DECEASED	2	
FALL FROM STREET CAR	2	
ATTEMPTING TO BOARD STREET CAR	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL		<u>33</u>

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

-14-

STEAM RAILWAY

JULY	1938	0	
AUGUST	"	2	
SEPTEMBER	"	2	
OCTOBER	"	0	
NOVEMBER	"	1	
DECEMBER	"	2	
JANUARY	1939	1	
FEBRUARY	"	3	
MARCH	"	2	
APRIL	"	3	
MAY	"	1	
JUNE	"	<u>3</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>20</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		17	
FEMALE		<u>3</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>20</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		6	
IN COUNTY OF	"	<u>14</u>	
	O/S LOS ANGELES CITY		
	TOTAL		<u>20</u>
<hr/>			
20	to 45 Yrs.	10	
45	to 65 Yrs.	3	
65	and over	<u>7</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>20</u>

STEAM RAILWAY

-15-

STEAM RAILWAY AND PEDESTRIAN	16
STEAM RAILWAY AND PASSENGER	3
STEAM RAILWAY AND EMPLOYEE	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>20</u>

CAUSES

WALKING ON RIGHT-OF-WAY	8
CROSSING RIGHT-OF-WAY CARELESSLY	3
INTOXICATION	1
ATTEMPTING TO BOARD MOVING TRAIN	2
ATTEMPTING TO ALIGHT FROM MOVING TRAIN	1
FALL FROM FREIGHT TRAIN	4
KNOCKED OFF FREIGHT TRAIN BY ELECTRIC WIRE	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>20</u>

SUMMARY

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
MOTOR VEHICLES	708	268	976
ELECTRIC RAILWAY	20	13	33
STEAM RAILWAY	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	745	284	1029

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

-16-

JULY	1938	6	
AUGUST	"	5	
SEPTEMBER	"	10	
OCTOBER	"	11	
NOVEMBER	"	8	
DECEMBER	"	11	
JANUARY	1939	8	
FEBRUARY	"	8	
MARCH	"	9	
APRIL	"	15	
MAY	"	8	
JUNE	"	<u>11</u>	
		TOTAL	<u>110</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		108	
FEMALE		<u>2</u>	
		TOTAL	<u>110</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		57	
IN COUNTY OF	"	45	
O/S LOS ANGELES CITY			
O/S LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DEATH IN L.A. COUNTY		<u>8</u>	
		TOTAL	<u>110</u>
<hr/>			
<u>AGES</u>			
10	to	20	Yrs.
		1	
20	to	45	Yrs.
		68	
45	to	65	Yrs.
		38	
65	and	over	
		<u>3</u>	
		TOTAL	<u>110</u>

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

-17-

NATURE

BODILY INJURY	8	
BURNS	12	
CRUSHING	24	
ELECTROCUTION	11	
FALLS	15	
HEAD INJURY	25	
INFECTION	7	
POISON	2	
PULMONARY EMBOLISM	1	
SUFFOCATION	<u>5</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>110</u>

CAUSES

BODILY INJURIES:	
EXPLOSION OF TANK BEING WELDED	1
INJURY TO CHEST	1
STRUCK BY RIM OF TIRE BEING INFLATED	1
DUE TO FALLS	5
BURNS:	
TRAPPED IN BURNING BUILDING	2
EXPLOSION OF GASOLINE	2
EXPLOSION OF FURNACE	1
EXPLOSION IN OIL PLANT	4
BY HOT WAX	1
WORKING ON ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT	1
EXPLOSION OF GAS	1

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

-18-

CAUSES, Continued

CRUSHING:

STRUCK BY LUMBER CARRIER	1
" " BROKEN FLYWHEEL	1
" " FALLING DERRICK	1
" " " PIPE	1
" " " SHEEVE ON OIL RIG	1
" " " TREE	2
" " " BOOM	1
" " " LUMBER	3
" " " ORE BUCKET	1
" " " CHAIN ON OIL RIG	1
" " BROKEN WRENCH	1

WHILE REPAIRING TURNTABLE ON CRANE 1

CAUGHT BETWEEN TRUCK AND TRACTOR 1

" " DUMP CARS 1

" " BOX CARS 1

STRUCK BY BROKEN GRINDSTONE 1

" " LEVER ON OIL RIG 1

" " ARMY TANK WHILE FILMING PICTURE 1

CAUGHT IN CAVEIN 1

" " ELEVATOR SHAFT 1

" " MACHINERY 1

ELECTROCUTION:

CAME IN CONTACT WITH LIVE WIRE 6

WORKING ON POWER POLE 3

" " ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 2

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

-19-

CAUSES, Continued

FALLS:

FROM MAST ABOARD SHIP	1
FROM POWER POLE	1
FROM TOWER	1
FROM LADDER WHILE WORKING	3
FROM SCAFFOLD	3
FROM CRANE	1
FROM PORCH WHILE MAKING REPAIRS	1
FROM OIL DERRICK	1
WHILE HANGING SIGN	1
WHILE UNLOADING TRUCK	1
WHILE WASHING WINDOWS	1

HEAD INJURY:

DUE TO FALLS 14

STRUCK BY FALLING PLANK	1
" " " TREE	1
" " " DERRICK	1
" " " IRON BAR	1
" " " STEEL BAR	1
" " " TIMBER	3
" " " CONVEYOR	1

BUMPED HEAD WHILE WORKING 1

WHILE WORKING ON PAPER BALER 1

INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

-20-

CAUSES, Continued

INFECTIONS:

INJURED FINGER:	TETANUS DEVELOPED	1
"	" CELLULITIS "	1
"	" PERITONITIS "	1
"	" SEPTICEMIA "	1
"	" STREPTOCOCCIA	1
"	HAND, SEPTICEMIA DEVELOPED	1
"	LIP, CELLULITIS "	1

POISONING:

INHALED ARSENIC FUMES WHILE WELDING	1
WHILE USING CLEANER CONTAINING TETRA-CHLORIDE	1

SUFFOCATION:

CAUGHT IN CAVE-IN OF EARTH	4
FELL INTO BIN OF COTTONSEED	1
INJURED LEG: PULMONARY EMBOLISM DEVELOPED	<u>1</u>

TOTAL

110

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-21-

JULY	1938	75	
AUGUST	"	70	
SEPTEMBER	"	74	
OCTOBER	"	66	
NOVEMBER	"	91	
DECEMBER	"	72	
JANUARY	1939	81	
FEBRUARY	"	73	
MARCH	"	62	
APRIL	"	70	
MAY	"	62	
JUNE	"	<u>68</u>	
TOTAL			<u>864</u>

MALE	480	
FEMALE	<u>384</u>	
TOTAL		<u>864</u>

IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES	493	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S LOS ANGELES CITY	368	
O/S LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DEATH OCCURRING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY	<u>3</u>	
TOTAL		<u>864</u>

<u>AGES</u>			
Less	than	1 Yr.	23
1	to	2 Yrs	12
2	to	5 Yrs.	28
5	to	10 Yrs.	22
10	to	20 Yrs.	41
20	to	45 Yrs.	158
45	to	65 Yrs.	191
65	and	over	<u>389</u>
TOTAL			<u>864</u>

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-22-

NATURE

ASPHYXIATION	13	
BURNS	91	
CRUSHING	4	
DROWNING	69	
ELECTROCUTION	2	
FALLS	368	
FIREARMS	11	
HEAD INJURY	103	
INFECTION	35	
MISCELLANEOUS	43	
POISONING (ALCOHOLISM, 42)	107	
STRANGULATION	7	
SUFFOCATION	<u>11</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>864</u>

CAUSES

ASPHYXIATION:	
GAS BURNING IN CLOSE ROOM	7
INHALATION OF SMOKE	4
FELL INTO WINE VAT	1
AT CHILD BIRTH	1
BURNS:	
CLOTHING IGNITED FROM HEATER	28
" " " CIGARETTE	11
EXPLOSION OF GAS	6
" " GASOLINE	6
PLAYING WITH MATCHES	6
ENDEAVORING TO RESCUE PERSON FROM BURNING BUILDING	1

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-23-

CAUSES, Continued

BURNS:	
BY BOILING WATER	3
LIGHTED MATCH IN GAS FILLED ROOM	2
WHILE IN BATHTUB	3
CLOTHING IGNITED FROM BONFIRE	4
EXPLOSION OF FUMIGATING FLUID	1
BY HOT VARNISH	1
BY HOT GREASE	1
BY ELECTRIC HEATER	1
FROM INCINERATOR	1
BY HOT WATER BOTTLE	1
WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1
TRAPPED IN BURNING BUILDING	14
CRUSHING:	
CAUGHT IN PUMP BELT	1
STRUCK BY FALLING WHEEL WHILE PLAYING	1
STRUCK BY FALLING IRON PIPES	1
STRUCK BY FALLING BODY OF SUICIDE WHO JUMPED FROM WINDOW	1
DROWNING:	
FELL FROM RAFT WHILE PLAYING	3
FELL INTO CREEK WHILE PLAYING	1
FELL INTO SWIMMING POOL	8
FELL INTO LAKE	1
FELL FROM ROCK WHILE FISHING	1
FELL FROM BOAT AT DOCK	1
FELL INTO FLOOD WATERS	1
FELL INTO GRAVEL PIT	1
STRUCK HEAD IN DIVING, DROWNED	2
BABY IN BATHTUB, WATER RUNNING	1

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-24-

CAUSES, CONTINUED

DROWNING:	
MOTORBOAT OVERTURNED	1
CANOE CAPSIZED	2
JUMPED FROM BRIDGE TO AVOID TRAIN	1
FELL INTO BATHTUB DUE TO FAINTING	2
INABILITY TO SWIM	9
EXHAUSTED WHILE SWIMMING	13
CAUGHT IN RIPTIDE	4
DUE TO CRAMPS	2
INTOXICATION	1
WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	12
UNKNOWN CAUSE, NO WITNESS	2
ELECTROCUTION:	
ELECTRIC HEATER FELL INTO BATHTUB	2
FALLS:	
TO FLOOR, OLD AGE	154
" " DUE TO ILLNESS	53
" " TRIPPED OVER OBJECT	19
BABY FELL FROM CRIB	2
FELL FROM JAIL BUNK	1
INTOXICATION	2
UNKNOWN CAUSE	1
TO STREET:	
OLD AGE	22
DUE TO ILLNESS	5
TRIPPED OVER OBJECT	8
INTOXICATION	2
WHILE PLAYING	1
AFTER COLLIDING WITH ANOTHER PERSON	1
UNKNOWN CAUSE	2

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-25-

CAUSES, Continued

FALLS:	
DOWNSTAIRS, OLD AGE	29
DUE TO ILLNESS	3
TRIPPED OVER OBJECT	3
TRIPPED OVER DOG	1
INTOXICATION	4
IN YARD AT HOME:	
OLD AGE	16
DUE TO ILLNESS	1
TRIPPED OVER OBJECT	3
FROM PORCH:	
OLD AGE	2
DUE TO ILLNESS	2
TRIPPED OVER OBJECT	1
FROM CLIFF, WHILE HIKING	4
FROM WINDOW, ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1
DOWN EMBANKMENT DUE TO STORM	1
INTO BATHTUB, DUE TO ILLNESS	1
FROM GANGPLANK, INTOXICATION	1
FROM WALL, INTOXICATION	1
DOWN ELEVATOR SHAFT, UNKNOWN CAUSE	1
DOWN LIGHTWELL, INTOXICATION	1
FROM DERRICK, INTOXICATION	1
INTO CULVERT, OLD AGE	1
FROM STANDING AUTO, OLD AGE	1
FROM BUILDING, ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETER.	1
" " REPAIRING ROOF AT HOME	1
" " INTOXICATION	1
FROM BRIDGE, ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	3

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-26-

CAUSES, Continued

FALLS:	
FROM HORSE, UNABLE TO MANAGE	2
FROM LADDER, AT HOME	2
WHILE WASHING WINDOWS AT HOME	1
UNKNOWN CAUSE	1
WHILE TRIMMING TREES AT HOME	1
FROM WINDOW, DEMENTED	1
INTOXICATION	1
ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	2
FIREARMS:	
PLAYING WITH GUN	2
GUN ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED	2
WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	5
" " " HOMICIDAL "	2
HEAD INJURY:	
DUE TO FALLS	87
DIVING INTO PLUNGE	2
STRUCK BY FALLING GATE WHILE PLAYING	1
CHILD STRUCK ON HEAD WITH TOY	1
STRUCK BY IRON BAR	1
WHILE PLAYING FOOTBALL	1
WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	3
" " " HOMICIDAL "	6
UNKNOWN CAUSE	1
INFECTION:	
INJURED FINGER, SEPTICEMIA DEVELOPED	3
" FOOT, " "	1
" HAND, " "	2
" LEG, " "	2
BITTEN BY INSECT " "	2

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-27-

CAUSES, CONTINUED

INFECTION:			
CIGARETTE ASHES IN EYE, INFECTION DEVELOPED			1
INJECTION OF CALCIUM GLUCOSE, TETANUS DEVELOPED			1
INJURED HAND,	"	"	2
" FOOT,	"	"	1
" ARM,	"	"	2
SLIVER IN FOOT,	"	"	1
STEPPED ON NAIL	"	"	1
" " "	SEPTICEMIA	"	2
INJURED LIP,	CELLULITIS	"	2
" FOOT,	"	"	2
" ARM,	"	"	1
EXTRACTION OF TOOTH,	"	"	1
" " "	SEPTICEMIA	"	1
SLIVER IN FINGER,	"	"	1
INJURED TOE, GANGRENE SET UP			1
" LEG, " " "			1
BITTEN BY DOG, PULMONARY EMBOLUS DEVELOPED			1
INJURY IN FRIENDLY SCUFFLE, TOXEMIA "			1
INJURED LEG, OSLEOMYOLITIS DEVELOPED			1
" IN FALL, SEPTICEMIA "			1
MISCELLANEOUS:			
BODILY INJURY, DUE TO FALLS			10
" " AFTER JUMP FROM TRUCK			1
" " WHILE BEING RESTRAINED BY ASYLUM ATTENDANTS			1
BODILY INJURY, WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR MOM. UNDETER.			3
PERFORATION OF ESOPHAGUS, SWALLOWED CHICKEN BONE			1
" " " CHILD DRANK LYE			1

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-28-

CAUSES, Continued

MISCELLANEOUS:	
SHOCK FOLLOWING ANESTHESIA	4
" " DOG BITE	1
" " DIVE INTO COLD WATER	1
" " FRACTURE OF ARM	1
HEMORRHAGE FROM UNTIED UMBILICAL CORD	2
" " CUT HAND	2
" " UNKNOWN CAUSE	1
" FOLLOWING JUMP FROM BUILDING	1
" " EXTRACTION OF TOOTH	1
" AT BIRTH (BABY)	1
FRACTURE OF BACK - FELL FROM HORIZONTAL BAR	1
" " " " BUILDING	1
" OF NECK - DOVE INTO SHALLOW WATER	3
EXPLOSION OF GAS BAG DURING ANESTHESIA	1
RUPTURED BLADDER - USED CATHETOR TO RELIEVE STRICTURE	1
RABIES DEVELOPED AFTER DOG BITE	1
PNEUMONIA DEVELOPED AFTER OPERATION ON THROAT	1
" " " FRACTURE OF ANKLE	1
" " " INHALATION OF SMOKE	1
POISONING:	
ALCOHOLISM	42
ANT PASTE: CHILD DRANK SOLUTION	4
ARSENIC: BABY DRANK SOLUTION	1
" MISTAKEN FOR MEDICINE	1
" WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	4
BARBITOL: OVERDOSE	3

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-29-

CAUSES, Continued

POISONING:		
BOTULISM:	ATE BLACK PUDDING	1
BROMIDES:	OVERDOSE	3
BARBITOL:	WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1
CARBON MONOXIDE:	GAS HEATER BURNING IN CLOSED ROOM	23
"	" FUMES FROM BURNING BUILDING	3
"	" AUTO EXHAUST, ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	2
CAUSTIC SODA:	ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1
CRESOL:	" " "	1
CYANIDE:	" " "	1
CHILD DRANK STAGNANT WATER		1
"	" SOLDERING SALTS	1
DRANK DENATURED ALCOHOL BY MISTAKE		2
DRANK PYRENE BY MISTAKE		1
DRANK PAINT REMOVER BY MISTAKE		1
CHILD DRANK VICK'S VAPOR RUB		1
CHILD DRANK WINTERGREEN		1
DRANK HYDRO OXIDE BY MISTAKE		1
INHALED GASOLINE FUMES		1
LYSOL:	ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	2
LUMINOL:	OVERDOSE	1
NICOTINE:	ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1
SALT SOLUTION:	OVERDOSE AT HOSPITAL	1
STRYCHNINE:	ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	1

MISCELLANEOUS ACCIDENTAL FATALITIES

-30-

CAUSES, Continued

STRANGULATION:	
POPCORN LODGED IN THROAT	1
BABY FELL BETWEEN WALL AND CRIB	1
INHALED MUCOUS	1
BABY SWALLOWED MARBLE	1
HEAD CAUGHT IN TREE BRANCH	1
WHETHER ACCIDENTAL OR SUICIDAL UNDETERMINED	2
SUFFOCATION:	
FOREIGN OBJECT LODGED IN THROAT	1
FACE COVERED WITH BEDDING	5
SMOKE FROM BURNING BUILDING	3
CAUGHT IN CAVE-IN WHILE PLAYING	1
INHALATION OF MILK	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>864</u>

SUICIDES

-31-

JULY	1938	45
AUGUST	"	46
SEPTEMBER	"	74
OCTOBER	"	69
NOVEMBER	"	44
DECEMBER	"	56
JANUARY	1939	63
FEBRUARY	"	53
MARCH	"	42
APRIL	"	52
MAY	"	59
JUNE	"	<u>47</u>

TOTAL	<u>650</u>
-------	------------

MALE	482
------	-----

FEMALE	<u>168</u>
--------	------------

TOTAL	<u>650</u>
-------	------------

IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES	377
------------------------	-----

IN COUNTY	"	O/S LOS ANGELES CITY	<u>273</u>
-----------	---	----------------------	------------

TOTAL	<u>650</u>
-------	------------

AGES

10	to	20	Yrs.	9
20	to	45	Yrs.	275
45	to	65	Yrs.	261
65	and	over		<u>105</u>

TOTAL	<u>650</u>
-------	------------

SUICIDES

-32-

NATURE :

BURNS	1
CUTTING	33
DROWNING	18
JUMPING: FROM BUILDING	12
FROM BRIDGE	3
FROM WINDOW	4
FROM TOWER	1
DOWN STAIR WELL	1
IN FRONT OF STREET CAR	3
POISONING: ANT PASTE	53
ANT POWDER	2
ARSENIC	19
AMONIA	1
ASPIRIN	1
BI-CHLORIDE OF MERCURY	7
BARBATOL	6
BARBITURATE	2
CARBON MONOXIDE: AUTO EXHAUST	78
ILLUMINATING GAS	26
CYANIDE	20
CHLOROFORM	4
CARBOLIC ACID	1
CAUSTIC ALKOLI	1
FORMALDEHYDE	1
HYDROCHLORIDE	1
INSOLIN	1

SUICIDES

-33-

NATURE, Continued

IODINE	1	
LYSOL	17	
LYE	1	
MORPHINE	4	
NICOTINE (BLACK LEAF 40)	4	
NITRIC ACID	1	
NEMETOL	1	
NITRO BENZINE	1	
POTASSIUM PERMANGONATE	3	
PHENOL	2	
POTASH	1	
SANI FLUSH	1	
STRYCHNINE	15	
SHOOTING	216	
STRANGULATION	81	
UNKNOWN POISON	<u>1</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>650</u>

CAUSES

ILL HEALTH	261
INTOXICATION	23
TIRED OF LIFE	13
DESPONDENCY	4
DESPONDENT OVER DIVORCE ACTION	1
DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES	50
FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES	58

SUICIDES
CAUSES, Continued

-34-

LOVE AFFAIR	6
MENTALLY DERANGED	14
TEMPORARILY DERANGED	19
FEAR OF PROSECUTION	12
FEAR OF BLINDNESS	4
FEAR OF INSANITY	3
LACK OF EMPLOYMENT	22
AFTER MURDER OF WIFE	9
AFTER MURDER OF HUSBAND	3
AFTER MURDER OF FRIEND	1
AFTER MURDER OF SON	2
AFTER COMMITTING MURDER	7
GRIEF OVER DEATH OF WIFE	5
GRIEF OVER DEATH OF HUSBAND	4
GRIEF OVER DEATH OF MOTHER	1
GRIEF OVER DEATH OF FRIEND	1
GRIEF OVER DEATH OF NEPHEW	1
DESPONDENT OVER LOSS OF AUTO	1
" " DAUGHTER'S ILLNESS	1
JEALOUSY	2
DUE TO OVERSTUDY	2
DRUG ADDICT	1
SUICIDE PACT	2
DESPONDENT OVER SEPARATION FROM WIFE	2
UNKNOWN CAUSES	<u>115</u>

TOTAL

650

HOMICIDES

-35-

JULY	1938	13	
AUGUST	"	14	
SEPTEMBER	"	14	
OCTOBER	"	10	
NOVEMBER	"	6	
DECEMBER	"	14	
JANUARY	1939	16	
FEBRUARY	"	6	
MARCH	"	14	
APRIL	"	7	
MAY	"	5	
JUNE	"	<u>5</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>124</u>
<hr/>			
MALE		94	
FEMALE		<u>30</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>124</u>
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		89	
IN COUNTY OF	" O/S LOS ANGELES CITY	<u>35</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>124</u>

AGES

Less than 1 Year	1	
2 to 5 Yrs.	1	
10 to 20 Yrs.	10	
20 to 45 Yrs.	72	
45 to 65 Yrs.	32	
65 and over	<u>8</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>124</u>

HOMICIDES

-36-

ACCIDENTAL	5	
JUSTIFIABLE	23	
UNJUSTIFIABLE	<u>96</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>124</u>
<hr/>		
BY KNOWN PERSON	59	
BY UNKNOWN PERSON	29	
BY HUSBAND	15	
BY WIFE	2	
BY FATHER	2	
BY MOTHER	2	
BY SON	1	
BY DAUGHTER	1	
BY BROTHER	2	
BY OFFICER	<u>11</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>124</u>

CAUSES

ACCIDENTAL:	
WHILE CLEANING GUN	1
PLAYING WITH GUN	3
HANDLING GUN CARELESSLY	2
JUSTIFIABLE:	
SELF-DEFENSE	8
DEFENSE OF HOME	1
DEFENSE OF MOTHER	1
EVADING ARREST	5
DURING ROBBERY	1
DURING HOLDUP	7

HOMICIDES
CAUSES, Continued

-37-

UNJUSTIFIABLE:		
LOVE AFFAIR	7	
DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES	12	
FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES	1	
DURING FIGHT	39	
" QUARREL OVER DOG	1	
" " " AUTO	1	
DURING HOLDUP	13	
JEALOUSY	5	
PROBABLY GANG WAR	1	
TRYING TO PREVENT MURDER OF ANOTHER	1	
FANCIED GRUDGE OVER DISCHARGE	1	
MENTALLY DERANGED	7	
BOY SHOT BY CITIZEN	1	
UNKNOWN CAUSE	<u>6</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>124</u>

ABORTIONS

SELF-INDUCED	10	
CRIMINAL BY PHYSICIAN	2	
CRIMINAL BY UNKNOWN PERSON	1	
SPONTANEOUS	2	
CAUSED BY FALL	1	
CRIMINAL OR SELF-INDUCED, UNDETERMINED	<u>3</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>19</u>
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES	13	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S L.A. CITY	<u>6</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>19</u>
MARRIED	15	
DIVORCED	2	
SINGLE	<u>2</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>19</u>
AGES: 10 to 20, 1; 20 to 45, 18	TOTAL	<u>19</u>

ALCOHOLISM

-38-

MALE	39	
FEMALE	<u>3</u>	
TOTAL		<u>42</u>

IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES	38	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S LOS ANGELES CITY	<u>4</u>	
TOTAL		<u>42</u>

<u>AGES</u>		
20 to 45 Yrs.	21	
45 to 65 Yrs.	17	
65 and over	<u>4</u>	
TOTAL		<u>42</u>

<u>UNKNOWN CAUSES</u>		
MALE	7	
FEMALE	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL		<u>8</u>

IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES	6	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S LOS ANGELES CITY	<u>2</u>	
TOTAL		<u>8</u>

<u>AGES</u>		
FETUS	1	
45 to 65 Yrs.	<u>7</u>	
TOTAL		<u>8</u>

DECOMPOSED	7	
POSSIBLY BOTULISM	<u>1</u>	
TOTAL		<u>8</u>

AEROPLANE FATALITIES

-39-

JULY	1938	1	
AUGUST	"	0	
SEPTEMBER	"	3	
OCTOBER	"	1	
NOVEMBER	"	0	
DECEMBER	"	0	
JANUARY	1939	1	
FEBRUARY	"	0	
MARCH	"	2	
APRIL	"	3	
MAY	"	2	
JUNE	"	0	
	TOTAL	<u>0</u>	<u>13</u>
<hr/>			
MALES		13	
<hr/>			
IN CITY OF LOS ANGELES		7	
IN COUNTY OF " O/S LOS ANGELES CITY		5	
O/S LOS ANGELES COUNTY, DEATH IN L.A. COUNTY		<u>1</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>13</u>
<hr/>			
PILOTS		7	
PASSENGERS		<u>6</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>13</u>
<hr/>			
<u>AGES</u>			
20 to 45 Yrs.		12	
45 to 65 Yrs.		<u>1</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>13</u>

AEROPLANE FATALITIES

CAUSES

DUE TO FOGGY WEATHER	3	
STUNT FLYING	1	
TAILSPIN	3	
STRUCK WIRE IN LANDING	3	
UNKNOWN CAUSES	<u>3</u>	
	TOTAL	<u>13</u>

TYPE OF PLANE

PLEASURE	4
ARMY	2
CHUTE	1
GLIDER	1

INQUESTS

-41-

		<u>CORONER'S INQUEST ROOM</u>	<u>L.A. CITY AND CO OUTSIDE INQUEST ROOM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
JULY	1938	53	32	85
AUGUST	"	64	38	102
SEPTEMBER	"	58	41	99
OCTOBER	"	52	39	91
NOVEMBER	"	50	41	91
DECEMBER	"	60	52	112
JANUARY	1939	57	38	95
FEBRUARY	"	46	26	72
MARCH	"	57	40	97
APRIL	"	43	37	80
MAY	"	39	28	67
JUNE	"	45	40	85
TOTAL		624	452	1076

AUTOPSIES

		<u>CORONER'S MORTUARY</u>	<u>L.A. CITY & CO. OUTSIDE MORTUARY</u>	<u>GENERAL HOSPITAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
JULY	1938	237	208	6	451
AUGUST	"	248	188	3	439
SEPTEMBER	"	265	214	7	486
OCTOBER	"	260	222	6	488
NOVEMBER	"	279	251	7	537
DECEMBER	"	282	288	9	579
JANUARY	1939	302	280	8	590
FEBRUARY	"	272	239	4	515
MARCH	"	247	264	7	518
APRIL	"	220	255	4	479
MAY	"	217	227	7	451
JUNE	"	216	264	5	485
TOTAL		3045	2900	73	6018

MISCELLANEOUS DATA

-42-

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EMBALMED (UNDER 14 YRS.: NO FEES)	180
NUMBER OF BODIES ASSIGNED TO COUNTY WELFARE: "	243
NUMBER OF BODIES ASSIGNED TO CATHOLIC WELFARE: "	57
NUMBER OF EMBALMING EXEMPTIONS FOR INDIGENT PERSONS UNDER PENAL CODE SEC. 4300h; NO FEES	<u>135</u>
TOTAL NUMBER EMBALMED AT CORONER'S MORTUARY FOR WHICH NO FEES WERE COLLECTED	615
TOTAL NUMBER BODIES EMBALMED: FEES COLLECTED	<u>2,242</u>
TOTAL NUMBER BODIES EMBALMED AT CORONER'S MORTUARY	2,857
NUMBER EMBALMED BY UNDERTAKERS BEFORE DELIVERY TO CORONER'S MORTUARY	<u>234</u>
TOTAL NUMBER OF BODIES HANDLED AT CORONER'S MORTUARY	3,091
NUMBER OF CORONER'S CASES HANDLED BY L.A. CITY AND COUNTY UNDERTAKERS O/S CORONER'S MORTUARY	<u>3,099</u>
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES HANDLED BY COUNTY CORONER	<u>6,190</u> -
NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS: NO AUTOPSY	172 -
MILES TRAVELED TO CONDUCT INQUESTS AND INVESTIGATIONS	13,282
MILES TRAVELED BY SURGEONS TO PERFORM AUTOPSIES AND TO APPEAR AS WITNESSES	40,533
MILES TRAVELED BY AMBULANCES TO TRANSPORT BODIES	12,979
NUMBER OF TRANSCRIPTS SOLD	543
NUMBER OF TRANSCRIPTS FILED WITH COUNTY CLERK	1,076
NUMBER OF TRANSCRIPTS DELIVERED TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY	324
TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSCRIPTS PREPARED	1,943
NUMBER OF PAGES OF TESTIMONY TYPEWRITTEN	14,848
NUMBER OF "VERDICT OF CORONER" AND AUTOPSY FINDINGS	4,942 -
NUMBER OF "VERDICT OF JURIES"	1,076

MISCELLANEOUS DATA, Continued

-43-

NUMBER OF JURORS SUMMONED TO SERVE ON CORONER'S INQUESTS	5,816
NUMBER OF WITNESSES SUBPOINED TO TESTIFY AT INQUESTS	7,096
NUMBER OF ESTATES DELIVERED TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR	150

SUMMARY OF SCIENTIFIC TESTS

NUMBER OF MICROSCOPIC EXAMINATIONS	654
NUMBER OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS	16
NUMBER OF BLOOD TESTS FOR CARBON MONOXIDE	37
NUMBER OF CROSS SPECIMENS PREPARED FOR EVIDENCE	41
NUMBER OF CASES HANDLED BY PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY	420
NUMBER OF CHEMICAL TESTS FOR SUGAR	8
NUMBER OF CASES SUBMITTED TO CHEMICAL LABORATORY	446
NUMBER OF CHEMICAL TESTS NECESSARY FOR ABOVE CASES	3,015

EXPENDITURES
FISCAL YEAR 1938-39

	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
SALARIES AND WAGES	\$ 108,455.00	\$ 108,084.88
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION	20,208.00	17,630.37
CAPITAL OUTLAY	<u>470.00</u>	<u>408.19</u>
TOTAL	\$ 129,133.00	\$ 126,123.44

REVENUES COLLECTED
FISCAL YEAR 1938-39

EMBALMING FEES	\$ 33,630.00
SALE OF TRANSCRIPTS	2,183.26
SHERIFF'S FEES	13.91
WITNESS FEES	<u>108.10</u>
TOTAL	\$ 35,935.27